

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 135419

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:CSCE

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV COMPLAINT ABOUT CSCE IMPLEMENTATION
REPORT

1. YUGOSLAV POLITICAL COUNSELOR (MATIC) CALLED ON WORKING
LEVEL DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL JUNE 7 TO COMPLAIN ABOUT TREAT-
MENT OF YUGOSLAVIA IN SECOND SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO JOINT
LEGISLATIVE-EXECUTIVE CSCE COMMISSION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF
CSCE FINAL ACT. MATIC COMPLAINED FIRST THAT YUGOSLAVIA
HAD NOT BEEN SUFFICIENTLY DISTINGUISHED FROM WARSAW PACT
COUNTRIES, AND THAT YUGOSLAV POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT WAS
NOT SUFFICIENTLY RECOGNIZED IN REPORT. HE THEN COMPLAINED
MORE SHARPLY AND SPECIFICALLY ABOUT MENTION OF YUGOSLAVIA
UNDER SECTION REVIEWING IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
PRINCIPLE. MATIC WAS PARTICULARLY INDIGNANT THAT
MILOVAN DJILAS WAS MENTIONED IN THE REPORT. WHILE
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EMPHASIZING THAT HE WAS SPEAKING PERSONALLY, AND THAT
NOT EVEN HIS AMBASSADOR HAD YET SEEN CONTENT OF REPORT,
MATIC ANTICIPATED SHARP GOY REACTION TO REPORT AND HOPED
WE WERE NOT RETURNING TO PERIOD OF POOR US-YUGOSLAV
RELATIONS SUCH AS THE ONE WE HAD RECENTLY BEEN THROUGH.

2. IN REPLY, DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL POINTED OUT THAT REPORT

DOES, IN FACT, DISTINGUISH BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES, AND THAT THERE IS NO INTENTION TO PLACE YUGOSLAVIA IN THE SAME CATEGORY AS WP MEMBERS. WITH REGARD TO REFERENCES TO YUGOSLAVIA UNDER HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION, WHICH APPEARED TO BE THE MAIN REASON FOR MATIC'S COMPLAINT, DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL MADE FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) WE ALSO MENTIONED POSITIVE ACTION OF YUGOSLAVIA IN RESOLVING TRIESTE BORDER ISSUE. (B) WE TRIED TO INCLUDE ALL INCIDENTS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD WHICH RELATED TO HUMAN RIGHTS. FOR EXAMPLE, WE INCLUDED THE FACT THAT THE UK HAD BEEN ACCUSED BEFORE THE EUROPEAN COURT OF VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE UK WAS ONE OF OUR CLOSEST ALLIES. (C) IT IS DIFFICULT IN SUCH A REPORT TO OMIT REFERENCE TO HUMAN RIGHTS INCIDENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN THOROUGHLY COVERED IN THE PRESS. SUCH OMISSIONS WOULD DAMAGE THE CREDIBILITY OF THE REPORT AND THUS UNDERMINE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR OUR CSCE POLICY. US PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR A FULL AND CONSTRUCTIVE US ROLE IN CSCE IS IMPORTANT ALSO FOR COUNTRIES LIKE YUGOSLAVIA, WHICH HAVE AN INTEREST IN STRENGTHENING THE CSCE PROCESS. (D) FINALLY, DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL STRESSED THAT IF THERE WAS NOT SUFFICIENT RECOGNITION IN THE REPORT FOR YUGOSLAVIA'S POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT, THIS WAS UNINTENTIONAL. WE CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE AND UNDERSTAND THIS POLICY.

3. FULL TEXT OF IMPLEMENTATION REPORT BEING POUCHED TO EMBASSY BELGRADE.

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